

Smith is the frontrunner for the 2006 Heisman Trophy award. As his Congresswoman, I am confident that he will receive this honor.

I have been a Troy Smith booster for many years. I have personally known Troy since 1999, when he and my son Mervin attended St. Edwards High School together. I have known Troy's father, Irvin, since kindergarten, when we attended Mile Standish Elementary School in Cleveland, Ohio. We have maintained a friendship throughout the years. I am so proud of Troy Smith's accomplishments and pray that God continue to bless him, keep him healthy, and give him the wisdom to make good decisions.

It is thus my pleasure, on behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District, to recognize the exceptional accomplishments of Ohio State University football player Troy Smith, one of our own.

RECOGNIZING JARED DANIEL MALONE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared Malone, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jared has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jared has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. It is with extreme pleasure that I commend the dedication Jared has shown.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jared for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am proud to represent Jared in the United States House of Representatives.

THE HONORABLE LEON L. WILLIAMS—A TRUE INSPIRATION TO ALL

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the city of San Diego had the honor of recognizing one of its greatest civic and progressive leaders, the Honorable Leon L. Williams who finally retired, after more than three decades of public life.

Early in his career, Leon was an executive with the San Diego Urban League, a director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps and an administrative assistant to three county sheriffs. Leon used these early positions to become a voice for police reform—advocating a community-based police approach long before it became popular or trendy.

Many present and former elected officials have greatly benefited from the knowledge and wisdom of Leon over these past 30 years. Whether as a member of the San Diego City Council, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors or as Chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Development Board, Leon's statesman-like qualities and demeanor were appreciated, admired and copied by many of his colleagues, associates and staff members.

As a strong advocate for developing older neighborhoods, not discarding them, Leon led the charge to create the Centre City Development Corp. and the Southeast Economic Development Corporation (SEDC). An unquestioned authority on urban transportation issues, Leon's ideas and vision helped San Diego develop a top-notch transportation system. That is why, in 2004, Leon was selected Board Member of the Year by the American Public Transportation Association. Also, Leon strongly believed, correctly I might add, that the San Diego Trolley System would bring the many neighborhoods of San Diego closer together.

Several of Leon's towering contributions to San Diego remain in place today and have blossomed; for example, both the Trolley and SEDC have grown and continue to provide well paying jobs and numerous business opportunities to residents living in southeastern San Diego.

Even in retirement, Leon remains gracious with his time, civic expertise and wisdom by helping to improve the quality of life for all San Diegans.

The Honorable Leon L. Williams truly has been an inspiration to all of San Diego.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF JAMES K. CONZELMAN TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, behind every successful Member of Congress is a good staff. When I was elected in 1981, I was told that my first and most important decision would be to find an outstanding Chief of Staff who could build a loyal and effective team.

That first decision turned out to be my best. Jim Conzelman has been my only Chief of Staff during an amazing 25 years in the history of the House of Representatives and our Country. He is a trusted aide and personal friend who has played an integral role in our accomplishments on behalf of the Fourth District and the Nation as a whole.

Jim came to me from that hotbed of political activism—Bozeman, Montana—with credentials from the Ford presidential campaign, the Select Committee on Assassinations, and a Member office. I was the newest recruit of a minority party near its low ebb in the House.

But it was a good time to be young and a Republican because the Reagan Revolution had begun. As I cast votes to advance the President's agenda, Jim assembled a support team that allowed me to meet my twin objectives of becoming a respected legislator in Washington and a persuasive advocate for my constituents.

The foundation that Jim built proved to be a lasting one during the quarter-century that followed. There have been memorable legislative battles, from telecommunications reform to financial services modernization to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. In 2001, we made the unprecedented move from the Commerce Committee to the newly created Financial Services Committee. As counselor to the chairman, Jim helped me organize a committee soon recognized for its productivity and responsiveness to all of its members.

Jim inspires great loyalty by treating everyone he meets with respect. Considering the transient nature of most staff, the retention rate in my office is unheard of. My core staff when I announced my retirement had combined legislative experience of more than 250 years, a true tribute to Jim's management skills. Many other staffers have gone on to successful careers after getting their first "break" from Jim, who remembers the feeling of starting a career in a city where the U.S. Capitol exerts a magical influence.

In a town where success often depends on the relationships you build, Jim has thrived professionally through the strength of his personal character. It is evident in both his work on the Hill and his volunteerism for charitable causes like the Multiple Sclerosis Society. I am reminded of the observation that Doris Kearns Goodwin made in *Team of Rivals*, her book about Lincoln, that "the qualities we generally associate with decency and morality—kindness, sensitivity, compassion, honesty, and empathy—can also be impressive political resources."

Jim's ideals have remained the same since the day he arrived in Washington from Montana. He came for the same reason we all come—to serve the people and our Country. It is above all a privilege, but that should not prevent us from showing appreciation to those who have done the job well. With gratitude, "Team OXLEY" salutes Jim Conzelman for his service.

HOOKED ON HEALTH

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of the Southwest Georgia Public Health District's Hooked on Health campaign. Today, many in my home state of Georgia are suffering from poor health. One in four adults is obese and only two in five adults in Georgia are regularly active. Poor health choices put all of our communities at risk for major health problems, like cardiovascular disease. The growing rates of obesity and inactivity will continue to impact our communities if we do not take action to reverse these trends.

There are simple, yet highly effective, solutions to this growing health crisis. Under the leadership of the District Health Director, Dr. Jacqueline H. Grant, MD, the Public Health District in Southwest Georgia launched the Hooked on Health wellness campaign in January 2006 to address three major health priorities: promoting healthy lifestyles, reducing health disparities, and engaging community and educational partners in these efforts.